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COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

THE ALL NEW, ALL DARING

PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN

MISSING
IN ACTION!
CONTINUES IN THIS ISSUE!



FACE OFF
BETWEEN THE
BLACK CAT™
AND
**DOCTOR
STRANGE™**

ACTION! INTRIGUE! SUSPENSE!

**FACE IT, TRUE BELIEVER...
THIS ONE'S GOT IT ALL...
... EXCEPT THE GUY WITH THE WEBS.**



IN THE EVENTS ABOUT TO UNFOLD,
THE FOLLOWING WILL NOT OCCUR--

THE BLACK CAT (SEEN BELOW) WILL
NOT LAY A HAND ON DOCTOR STRANGE,
MASTER OF THE MYSTIC ARTS (THAT'S
HIS HOUSE SHE'S APPROACHING.)

DAILY BUGLE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
JOE ROBERTSON WILL NOT
CHOKO TO DEATH.

THE LIGHTS WILL
NOT STAY ON.

PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR
SPIDER-MAN, WILL NOT SHOW UP.

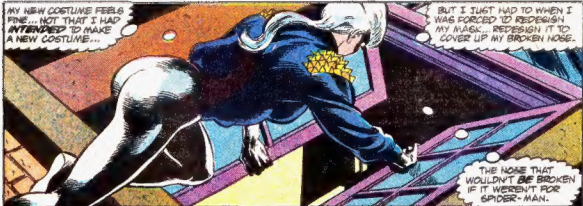
AND ALL OF THIS WILL
NOT HAPPEN DURING...

DINNER HOUR

7:00 PM

PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN™ Vol. 1, No. 117, August, 1986. (ISSN 0273-6632) Published by MARVEL COMICS GROUP, James E. Galt, President, Stan Lee, Publisher, Michael Hobson, Group Vice-President, Milton Schiffman, Vice-President, Production. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016. SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT NEW YORK, NY AND AT ADDITIONAL MAILING OFFICES. Published monthly. Copyright © 1986 by Marvel Comics Group, a division of Cadence Industries Corporation. All rights reserved. Price 75¢ per copy in the U.S. and 95¢ in Canada. Subscription rate \$9.00 for 12 issues. Canada and Foreign, \$11.00. Printed in the U.S.A. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the conditions that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition. SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN (including all prominent characters featured in the issue), and the distinctive likenesses thereof are trademarks of the MARVEL COMICS GROUP. POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN, 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, 10TH FLOOR, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016.

MY NEW COSTUME FEELS
FINE... NOT THAT I HAD
INTENDED TO MAKE
A NEW COSTUME...



BUT I JUST HAD TO WHEN I
WAS FORCED TO REDESIGN
MY MASK... REDESIGN IT TO
COVER UP MY BROKEN NOSE.

THE NOSE THAT
WOULDN'T BE BROKEN
IF IT WEREN'T FOR
SPIDER-MAN.

I STILL REMEMBER HOW TERRIFIED
I WAS WHEN MY BAD LUCK POWERS
CUT OUT ON ME IN THE MIDDLE OF
A CAPER. FIRST SOME THUGS BROKE
MY NOSE...



...THEN THEY FOUNDED
ME UNTIL I FOUGHT
BACK... AND I DON'T
PULL MY PUNCHES.



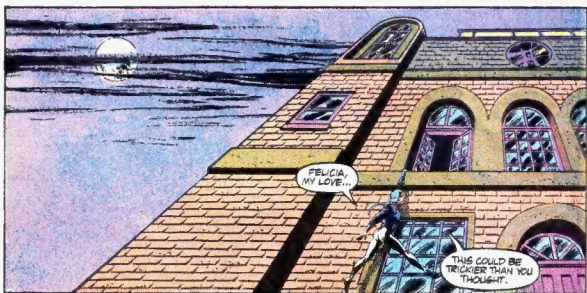
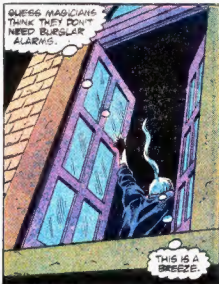
WHEN I GOT HOME, SOME
FREAK CALLED SABRETOOTH
FOLLOWED ME. I COULDN'T
HANDLE HIM.

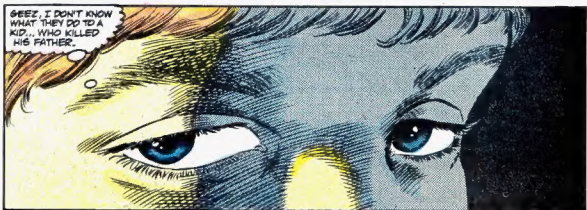
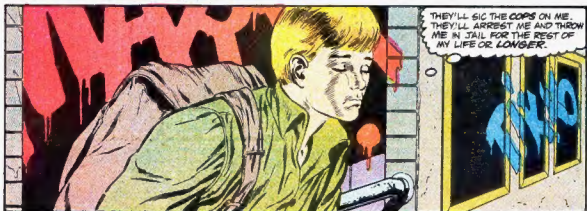
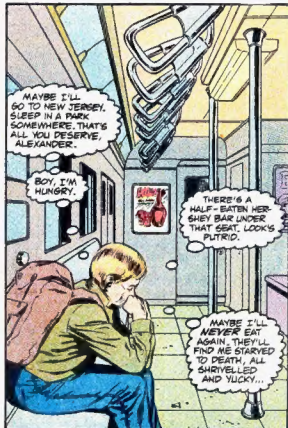


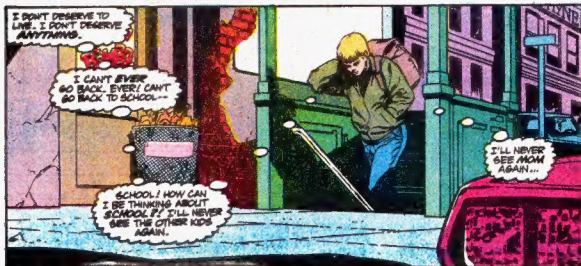
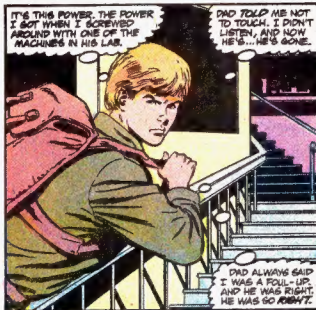
BUT SPIDER-MAN, MY EX-LOYER
SHOWED UP. MR. MACHO DOUBTLESSLY
MOVED BY A GUILTY CONSCIENCE,
SINCE HE CAUSED MY POWER
LOSS.

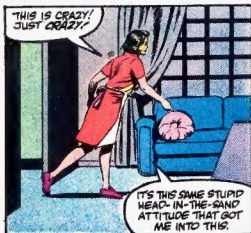


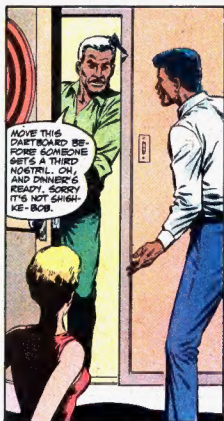
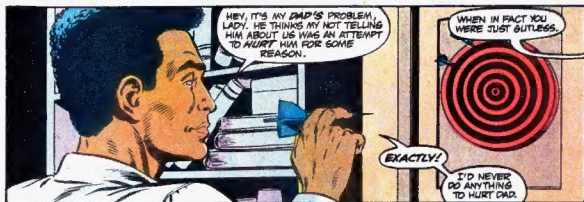
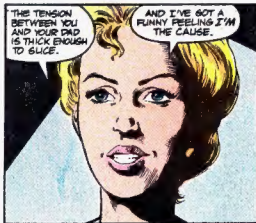
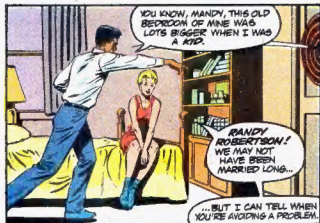
MY BAD LUCK POWERS
HAD SOMEHOW HEXED
SPIDER-MAN, SO HE
GOT HIMSELF DE-HEXED
...AND ALE WITH HIM.

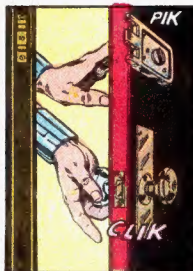
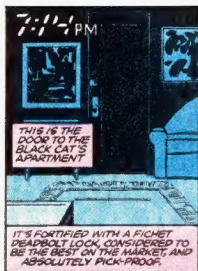


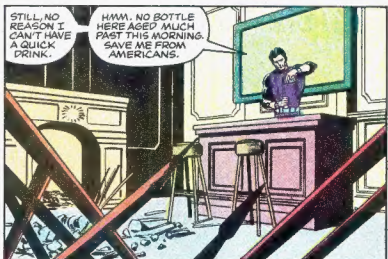


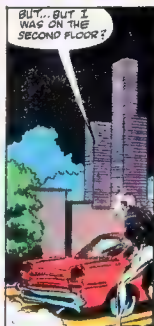
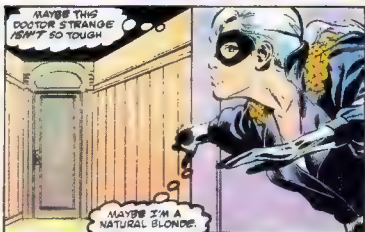
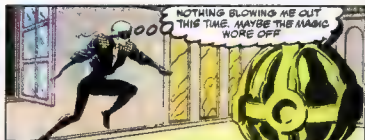


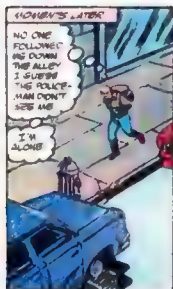
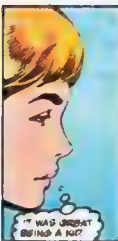


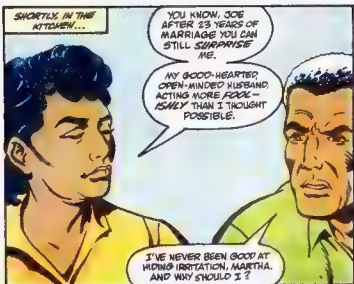


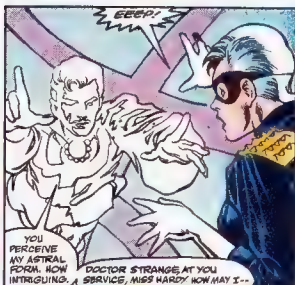


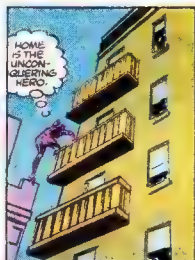


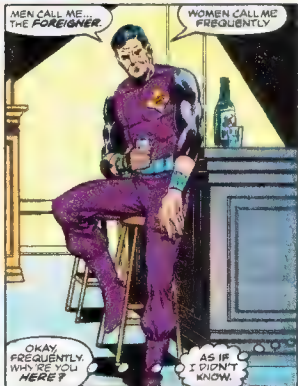
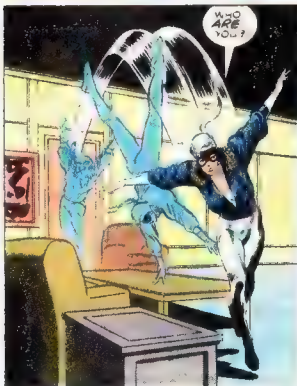
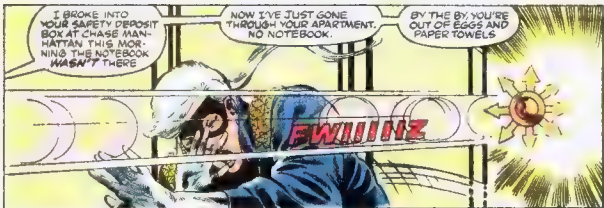


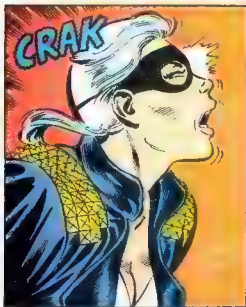
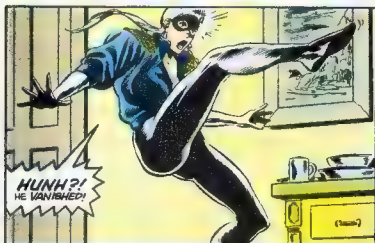


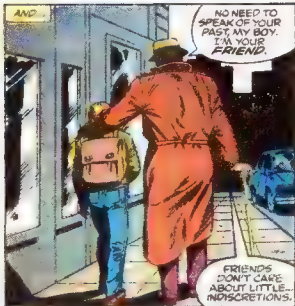


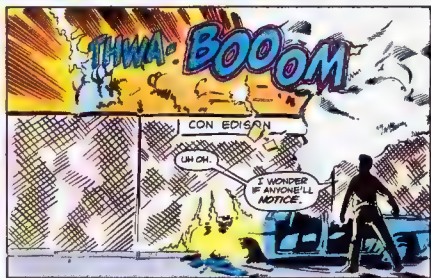
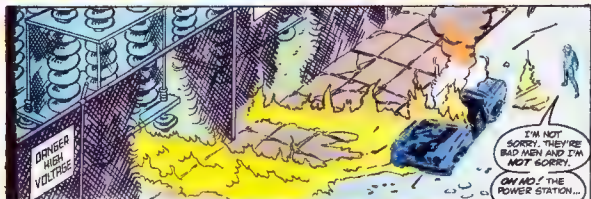


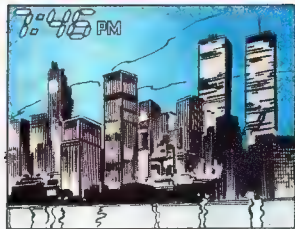




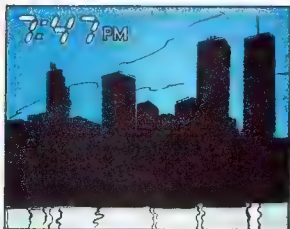




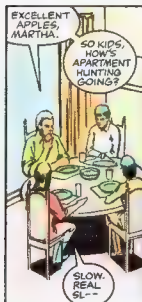




7:45 PM



7:47 PM



EXCELLENT APPLES, MARTHA.

SO KIDS, HOW'S APARTMENT HUNTING GOING?

SLOW. REAL SL--



HEY! WHAT HAPPENED?

KRUNCH



BLACKOUT! RANDY, A FLASHLIGHT'S MAGNETIZED TO THE FRIDGE. GO GET IT.



MARTHA, I'M CALLING THE BUGLE. I HOPE THE PHONES AREN'T --ACK..

JOE?



ACK...MUK..MUK ..

JOE, WHAT'S *WRONG*? YOU SOUND FUNNY.



MUUMMMM



URKSH!

COULDN'T... BREATHE. APPLE... GOT STUCK...



MARTHA, YOU SAVED MY LIFE. SOASAPL WHERE'D YOU... LEARN HEIMLICH...?



IN SCHOOL, SIR.

AMANDA!
YOU--?

MR. ROBERTSON...
JOE.



WOULD
NOW BE A
GOOD TIME
TO TELL YOU
I'M
JEWISH?



I DON'T
GET IT YOU
HAD ME COLD
AND THEN
YOU STOPPED
TO FINISH
YOUR DRINK.

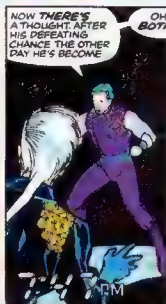
WHY?



PRIORITIES,
DEAR GIRL,
SKOAL!

HONESTLY I
WAS SO HOPING
FOR MORE OF A
CHALLENGE,
CAT

YOU WANT A
CHALLENGE?
PICK ON
SPIDER-MAN.



NOW THERE'S
A THOUGHT, AFTER
HIS DEFEATING
CHANCE THE OTHER
DAY HE'S BECOME

OH,
BOTHER.



THE LIGHTS!
NOW'S MY
CHANCE TO
GET OUT OF
WAIT!

I
CAN
SEE
HIM!



CLEAR AS DAY,
I CAN SEE HIM!
MY POWERS
HAVE CHANGED!



AND THAT
MEANS A NEW
BALLGAME.
FIRST I NEED
DISTANCE
AND THEN...





SO THAT'S
THE **PLAN**,
MY DEAR
CAT.



A PLAN THAT WILL
RESULT IN THE TOTAL
DESTRUCTION OF
SPIDER-MAN. ARE
YOU WITH ME OR
NOT?

HIS GAZE IS ALMOST HYPNOTIC.
AND HIS VOICE... IT MAKES ME
TINGLE. HE SOUNDS BRITISH,
BUT...

WHY **ME**,
FOREIGNER?
YOU COULD'VE
KILLED ME, BUT
NOW YOU WANT
MY HELP. WHY?

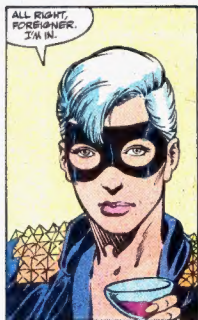


I HAVE A
WEAKNESS
FOR WOMEN
WITH SILVER/
BLONDE HAIR.

SO WHAT DO I DO?
DO I REALLY WANT
TO DESTROY SPIDER?
I HAD THOUGHT SO,
BUT...

... BUT IF I **DO**,
I'LL BE GIVING
UP ALL HOPE OF
EVER GETTING
HIM BACK.

BUT HE MADE
IT CLEAR HE
DOESN'T **WANT**
ME. WHY SHOULD
I WANT HIM?
DON'T I DESERVE
SOME SHRED OF
SELF-RESPECT?



ALL RIGHT,
FOREIGNER.
I'M IN.



WHEN WE'RE
THROUGH SPIDER-
MAN'S LIFE WILL
BE RUBBLE

CLINK!

PETER DAVID
script

RICH BUCKLER
storytelling

DWAYNE TURNER
pencils

BOB McLEOD
DEL BARRAS
KEITH WILLIAMS
JOSEF RUBINSTEIN
inks

JOE ROSEN
RICK PARKER
BILL OAKLEY
KEN LOPEZ
lettering

NEL YOMTOV
coloring

JIM OWSLEY
editor

JIM SHOOTER
editor in chief

EXPLOSION! HOURS LATER, AS THE PEOPLE OF TEMPLE CORNERS, VIRGINIA, GATHER BEHIND NATIONAL GUARD BARRICADES TO WATCH THEIR FUTURE SMOOTHER AND FLIDE...



HERE'S YOUR TEA, MS. MERCADO. THE CAPTAIN SAYS DE-BRIEFINGS ARE ALMOST OVER-- YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO PHONE YOUR EDITOR SOON.

THANK YOU, CORPORAL.



CHARLA AND SETH ARE OKAY. THEIR STORY SHOULD SELL A LOT OF MAGAZINES.

BUT I'LL HAVE TO LET THE FOXCON ANGLES GO FOR NOW.



IT SEEMS ALL EVIDENCE OF THEIR INVOLVEMENT WAS DESTROYED IN THE EXPLOSION AND I CAN'T FILE A STORY BASED ON HEARSAY.

I CAN, HOWEVER, KEEP A VERY CLOSE EYE ON THEM.



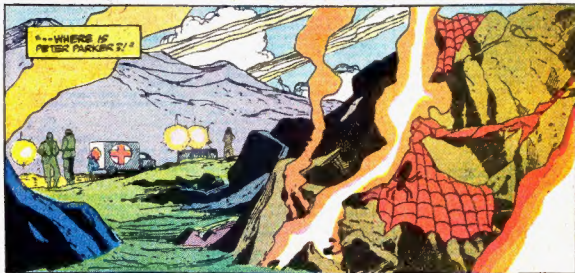
BUT EVEN THAT'S NOT THE BIG PROBLEM-- THAT PRIZE GOES TO PETER!

NOBODY'S BEEN ABLE TO FIND HIM SINCE THE BLAST. I CAN'T BELIEVE HE... HE'S DEAD...



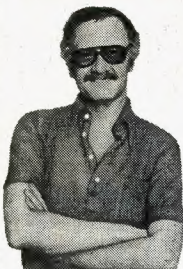
...BUT HE COULD HAVE GOTTEN LOST IN THOSE TUNNELS. HE MIGHT NEED HELP.

BLAST IT ALL--



...WHERE IS PETER PARKER?!

BULLPEN BULLETINS



STAN LEE'S SOAPBOX...

... will be appearing in *Marvel Age* every month beginning with issue #41, which is on sale now. Before I say more about that, first let me tell you a little story...

ONCE UPON A TIME...

... I was at a party at Stan's house way up in the Hollywood Hills. It was getting late, the festivities were winding down, and we found ourselves standing on his front porch looking down at the lights of Los Angeles, chatting about the biz. Suddenly, I had one of those strange feelings—I don't know what to call it—a Profound Revelation? A Meaningful Insight? A Moment of Awareness? Anyway, after a brief silence, I said, "Stan, I can't believe that I... am here at Stan Lee's house... just hanging out! I mean, you've been one of my heroes since I was twelve!" Well, that embarrassed him a little, I think. He thanked me, and added that sometimes he couldn't believe all of the great things that'd happened to him in the last twenty-five years. I guess he'd never expected to become a comics legend, creative head of a major animation studio, and an inspiration to a generation.

Steve Englehart once said, "... in many ways, Stan is the father of us all," meaning the comics writers of today. He's right. Everyone at Marvel Comics, everyone in comics owes Stan a debt of gratitude that cannot be repaid. With all due respect to Steve Ditko, Jack Kirby and the many other outstanding artists/co-creators with whom Stan worked in the sixties creating and building the Marvel Universe, I submit that without Stan Lee there would be no Marvel Comics today. Very likely, there would be no comics. Thanks largely to Stan, we have a place to bring forth our own imaginings, a firm foundation upon which to build, and, oh, by the way, he showed us how. Wow.

THEREFORE, I RECOMMEND...

... that you start picking up *Marvel Age* if you haven't already, and check out Stan's Soapbox. It's the same, famous no-holds-barred type of column that used to appear on this page years ago—words of wisdom, funny stuff, Pronouncements of Great Import to the Entire Comics Community, and who knows, maybe recipes. So pay attention, willya.

Marvel Age can be purchased at comics shops or via subscription. There's a subscription ad elsewhere in this book.

Stan is still the Man!

THE 1986 OVERSTREET PRICE GUIDE...

... celebrates Marvel Comics' 25th Anniversary with a special introduction by Stan Lee (him again!) and a special, somewhat more longwinded introduction by moi. It's the authority on back-issue prices of all comics and it can be found at comics shops and bookstores everywhere. \$10.95 per copy. No serious collector can afford to be without it.

OUT OF SPACE...

... so I'll have to wait till next month to reveal more about the *New Universe*.

Strive on!

Stan

Jim Shooter
Editor in Chief

CHECKLIST

- ☐ DAKOTA NORTH #2—More high-flying adventures of Marvel's fearless female detective!
- ☐ DAREDEVIL #233—The unbelievable conclusion to the DD/Kingpin conflict!
- ☐ NEW MUTANTS #42
- ☐ WEB OF SPIDER-MAN #17—Spider disappears!
- ☐ WEST COAST AVENGERS #11—With Nick Fury!
- ☐ SQUADRON SUPREME (Limited Series) #12—The double-sized conclusion, featuring a battle you'll never forget!
- ☐ ALPHA FLIGHT #37
- ☐ AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #278—Spider's still missing!
- ☐ CAPTAIN AMERICA #320—The final fate of the Scourge!
- ☐ DOCTOR STRANGE #78
- ☐ VISION AND SCARLET WITCH (Limited Series) #11
- ☐ FANTASTIC FOUR INDEX #9—The real story about what happened in issues #148-169!
- ☐ POWER PACK #28—The double-sized finale to the Shark Wars!
- ☐ THE OFFICIAL HANDBOOK OF THE MARVEL UNIVERSE #9—Introducing everyone from Molecule Man to Phastos!
- ☐ AVENGERS #270
- ☐ CONAN THE BARBARIAN #185

- ☐ ETERNALS (Limited Series) #11
- ☐ INCREDIBLE HULK #322—Featuring both the East and West Coast Avengers!
- ☐ X-MEN #208
- ☐ MARVEL SAGA #9—Showcasing the origins of the Watcher, Doctor Octopus, the Kree-Skrull War, and lots more!
- ☐ G.I. JOE #50—Celebrate with this double-sized anniversary issue!
- ☐ MARVEL TALES #190
- ☐ FANTASTIC FOUR #293
- ☐ IRON MAN #200
- ☐ PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #117—Uh oh, Spider's not here, either! What happened?
- ☐ THOR #370—Introducing... Justice Peace!
- ☐ TRANSFORMERS #19—Omega Supreme is here!
- ☐ X-FACTOR #7—Welcome new writer Louise Simonson!
- ☐ DOCTOR WHO #23

MARVEL MAGAZINES

- ☐ MARVEL AGE #41—Special Stan Lee issue!
- ☐ SARGE SWORD OF CONAN #128
- ☐ EPIC COMICS
- ☐ MOONSHADOW (Limited Series) #8

- ☐ GROO THE WANDERER #18—Groo meets... Grooelle?
- ☐ DREADSTAR #25—On trial!
- ☐ ELQUEST #13
- ☐ ALIEN LEGION #14—Beware the Hunter!
- ☐ STAR COMICS
- ☐ MISTY (Limited Series) #5—With "Video Wars" and two more stories!
- ☐ PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #9
- ☐ THUNDERCATS #5—To rescue the ghost of Jagal!
- ☐ HEATHCLIFF #9—Caught in the middle of a wild mountain feud!
- ☐ DROIDS #3—Trapped with a dangerous space pirate!
- ☐ TOP DOG #9—Guest starring Heathcliff!

GRAPHIC NOVEL

- ☐ HOOKY—We couldn't hold it back any longer. It demanded to be released! And when you look inside, you'll see why human hands couldn't stop it! That's right, it's that monstrous Spider-Man adventure you've had nightmares about, and now it's coming for you! The screams are of SUSAN K. PUTNEY (writer) and BERNI WRIGHTSON (artist)! Don't say we didn't warn you!



SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAIL

JAMES C. OWSLEY ADAM BLAUSTEIN
EDITOR ASSOCIATE EDITOR

VIEW FROM THE TENTH FLOOR

Since announcing this month's "MISSING IN ACTION" series of Spider-Man stories (aka: "WHERE IS SPIDER-MAN?"), I've received a number of complaints from mailman readers who accused us of plagiarizing a popular breakfast cereal's recent advertising campaign. This cereal, whose spokesman is a retired Naval captain, recently held a contest precipitated by this aforementioned Naval captain's sudden disappearance. "Aha!" you say, "a pattern emerges!" In the interest of total disclosure, I would like to map out the main differences between our neighborhood webslinger and this Naval captain.

Spider-Man doesn't wear a funny hat. Or a mouse-ear. His nose is considerably smaller than the captain's. He doesn't sail around in circles on a condemned wooden galleon with a bunch of kids. Kids who never go to school. Kids with buck teeth. Kids this aged fellow teaches bad english to (they tend to call him "Cap'n"). And, in addition to the fact the product Spider represents won't give you tooth decay, I challenge you to roll up a bowl of cereal and slobber it in your back pocket.

There, I think I've fairly covered this matter. As for "WHERE IS SPIDER-MAN . . ." ? You'll find out in WEB #18. I still don't know where the cap'n's.

James C. Owsley

HAVE A
NICE DAY



SEND ALL LETTERS TO:
Marvel Comics Group,
367 Park Avenue South,
New York, N.Y. 10016.
Please include your name
and address. We will,
however, withhold them
upon request.

Dear Marvel,

I have a No-Prize for you. In issue #113, on the page where you answer the questions, there were three people that said the Sin-Eater's costume changed colors. You said congratulations you were the only one to notice this. Explain this to me please.

Jeremy Steiding
7116 Mt. Vernon St.
Lemon Grove, CA 92045

Would you believe, Jeremy, that you were the only person to have noticed that happened? Congratulations.

Dear Marvel,

I loved PP #113. I hope to see many more like it. I especially liked the humor and the major part the old folks played in that humor. I especially loved the married couple.

What will happen with Alex's hand? Will he kill his father accidentally?

Now let's talk about Peter's romance partner. Will it be Joy or MJ. Or maybe the Black Cat? Nah!

One more question. Who was the person with the knife on the last page of PP #112? Also, is May and Nathan's engagement ka-puf? I sure hope not. You know, there's too many things I don't know!

(Name withheld for request)

By now, Nameless, you know Alex's father was not only killed but vacuumed. Be here next issue for the conclusion of the Alex storyline. As for Peter's romance partner, our guess is no matter which way it goes, there'll be Joy all around. The knife wielder at the end of #112 was none other than John, leader of the punks in the following issue. The "he" referred to that they're stalking is not Peter, but Ernie. Sometimes we're so sneaky we forget to tell you! May and Nathan's engagement? Keep reading. That way you'll know everything, and then you can explain it to us!

Dear Editor,

When writer and artist are unfamiliar with a subject it shows; it is most notable in stories involving police officers. Because of the brevity of the usual comic book story many of the basic police procedures are tossed aside; even common sense bites the dust, which is not always bad as long as the story is not greatly affected. Unfortunately in PP #113 the story does suffer.

May's house is surrounded by police, reporters and gawkers. What's wrong with this picture? (a) Proximity—Armed kidnapers means keep your distance. (b) Bystanders—It is unlikely that police would allow so many, or any at all. (c) The police are not keeping themselves or bystanders under cover. (d) Position—it appears that all the police are in the front yard, instead of surrounding the place.

On the next page Peter makes contact with the police and is for most part ignored. It is too far from reality—Police would have taken Peter aside, apprised him of the situation and gotten information such as the layout of the house.

A trained hostage negotiator would not say, "I know you're scared, son," but instead words used to calm a kidnaper down.

The snipers would have had to get four clear shots virtually simultaneously to insure the hostages' survival. At this point rather than try to eliminate the kidnappers the police would try to negotiate for a reduction in hostages or failing that, just wait them out.

But would you believe, even with all the inaccuracies, I liked it. It was the Sin-Eater storyline that got me hooked on all the Spider-Man books after a long absence. Except for the line points I like Peter David's writing and Bob McLeod has long been one of my favorite artists. All I ask is that a little more thought go into the production and if too little is known about a subject . . . research never hurt.

Christopher Mize
PO Box 949
Hattiesburg, MS 39401

Much thanks for your long letter, Chris. We always appreciate technical clarification. We tried to show your missive to Peter David, but unfortunately he was out having his artistic license renewed.

Dear Jim,

There you go again! Another great issue. I'm referring to PP #113. This issue had pathos, suspense, action, and other powerful elements which I will not take the time to enumerate.

It's discouraging to see Pete so unappreciated by K. Cushing and Co. Pete does have a Bachelors Degree after all, perhaps he could get a job in the science field.

On the Black Cat: She reminds me of an old girlfriend of mine and said girlfriend was no good. This being so, I'm glad that Pete and Felicia are apart. However, I do hope that Spider-Man will let the Black Cat do her Robin Hood boogey. If there is one aspect of Pete's personality I don't care for, it is that his strong sense of justice doesn't allow him to see the potential for good in any crime whatsoever. I've noticed a change in this regard. I'm happy to say.

And I close with this correction. In the letters page of issue #113, you indicated to three different individuals that they were the only individuals who noticed the coloring error in PP #108. In so doing you deceived each of the three, not to mention your readership.

Conrad P. Hernandez, Jr.
1301 W. Myrtle Avenue
Phoenix, AZ 86021

Would you believe, Conrad, that you were the only person to have noticed that happened? Congratulations.

Dear PP People,

Ever since you have subtitled Peter Parker with "The All New, All Different . . ." Peter Parker has developed into an intricate yet fast-paced stories that make it overwhelmingly enjoyable to read. Peter Parker #113 was definitely no exception.

Bob McLeod's artwork followed the excellence of the Rich Buckler cover. Personally Mr. McLeod's artwork has enthralled me since he drew the New Mutants, and he seems to have improved over the short years. Probably the most important panel, the picture of Nathan pulling the venetian blind, shows a realistic look of fear, anger and torment.

My only complaint is extremely minor. Being an avid Sting fan, I was slightly perturbed by his name on the front of that punk's shirt on the cover. If anything Sting is one of the more humane and compassionate singers in rock today, and his name used on scum like that is somewhat appalling.

But nevertheless Peter Parker was colorful and dramatic, dealing with both well-choreographed light scenes and deep human emotions. Continue in the pattern, gentlemen, and the new subtitle will continue to live up to its name.

J.M. Verde
Palos Verdes Estates, CA 90274

Dear Marvel,

In PP #113 you congratulated three people on being the only one to find the same coloring mistake.

Chris Reid
1714 South Blvd.
Houston, TX 77098

Would you believe, Chris, that you were the only person to have noticed that happened? Congratulations.

Dear Spiderites,

Keep that Beachum guy! His art was great! Especially drawing cool chicks seems to be his passions—and please, give us MJ all naked—or is that too much?

Daniel Koezt
Ft-Legahnst: 57
2000 Hamburg 55
West Germany

Much too much.